

with thin ash; and he arms
himself to perform the Long March

and Middle Passage
on the same week-end.

Now he's on the newsreel
riding in Castro's jeep,

sweating through a bush-jacket,
200% Black.

-- Paul St Vincent

London England

THE ELEMENT OF NO GAMBLE

There is a powerful rain.
Under a tent
three Tibetan muleteers
are gambling with cowrie shells.

They hoist the leather dice box
and crash it down with much force.

Those shells have value.

It will please them
to give you, for nothing,
a handful of handsome copper coins
from an extinct culture.

THE FALL

Crows are peering in the window.
What have I forgotten this time?

The only crow I ever saw fall
Was one I shot.

He plummeted straight down
And was dead.

All the other crows put on
A ritual ceremony around him.

It was so solemn, I was afraid.

When they left, in a big, wheeling circle,
They gave me to believe that they
Had his spirit with them.

I know now that it was easy enough --
The spirit is aviform.

As an earthling, I pawed him into the ground.
He was, I believe, some sort of nobleman.

If only I had eaten him then and there,
I could have saved myself a lot of trouble.

-- John Berry

Los Angeles CA

TWO FROM WOODRAT'S TALES, PULLED OFF

WHAT TORNGIT'S HUSBAND WAS ASKED UPON ENTERING THE HOUSE

1. Who are you?
2. Who is your mother?
3. Who is your father?
4. Who is your younger brother?

WHAT TORNGIT'S HUSBAND REPLIED

1. A little point of land.
2. A little fjord.
3. A little drop.
4. An asshole.

ACOMA LOVE CHARM

find a spider web
spun over the mouth
of a hole in the ground
remove it carefully
leaving in trade
cotton red rock pollen &
rabbit or deer meat
then take the web